

Troutman Pepper Locke Cannabis Communications Newsletter — January 16, 2025

WRITTEN BY

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Troutman Pepper Locke's Cannabis Practice helps clients throughout their business cycle enter or expand into the cannabis space. Our team combines the resources of attorneys in areas such as licensing and taxation, regulatory compliance, corporate and transactional, intellectual property, and real estate, among others, to provide comprehensive services.

Our Cannabis Practice provides advice on issues related to applicable federal and state law. Cannabis remains an illegal controlled substance under federal law.

Cannabis Regulatory Updates

CANNABIS RESCHEDULING: ALJ CANCELS UPCOMING HEARINGS ON PROPOSED RULEMAKING

By [Jean Smith-Gonnell](#), [Zie Alere](#), and [Nick Ramos](#)

Hearings on the merits of the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) proposed cannabis rescheduling, initially set to begin this month, have been cancelled. The preliminary hearing period has been littered with accusations that the DEA improperly excluded certain parties from participating, that the DEA itself does not adequately support rescheduling, and that the DEA engaged in improper *ex parte* communications with anti-rescheduling parties.

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FEDERAL APPEALS COURT DEALS ANOTHER BLOW TO INTOXICATING HEMP PRODUCTS IN VIRGINIA

By [Jean Smith-Gonnell](#), [Agustin Rodriguez](#), and [Michael Jordan](#)

On January 7, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit [found](#) that Virginia's hemp product restrictions do not violate federal law. The ruling is the latest defeat for the Virginia hemp industry's efforts to overturn [Virginia S.B. 903](#), a law intended to prohibit the sale of intoxicating hemp products like delta-8 and delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) gummies and beverages in the Commonwealth.

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